

Ryan Taylor
AP English Language and Composition
Composition: Researched Argument
27 May 2009

12.1 Using capital letters correctly

MY SENTENCE: The most commonly cited culprit today is MSNCB News, but other networks, newspapers, and even the associated press have been accused of leaning to the left.

EXPLANATION: Always capitalize proper nouns and proper adjectives. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 298.

REVISED EXAMPLE: The most commonly cited culprit today is MSNCB News, but other networks, newspapers, and even the Associated Press have been accused of leaning to the left.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The troll was sitting under the bridge.

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13.1 In-text citation

MY SENTENCE: They claimed that Obama had received more difficult questions than Hilary, and even some news reporters joined in the thrashing of ABC's debate. Greg Mitchell wrote in *Editor and Publisher* that it was "perhaps the most embarrassing performance by the media in a major presidential debate in years." (Obama's secret weapon: The media)

EXPLANATION: Use in-text citation to specify where you cite a specific author or source in an essay. I got my information from the FHS Research Guide on page 18.

REVISED EXAMPLE: They claimed that Obama had received more difficult questions than Hilary, and even some news reporters joined in the thrashing of ABC's debate. Greg Mitchell wrote in *Editor and Publisher* that it was "perhaps the most embarrassing performance by the media in a major presidential debate in years." (Obama's secret weapon: The media).

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Bears almost never chase people up trees (Bill's Wilderness Guide).

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6.3 Italics/underlining

MY SENTENCE: Bernard Goldberg, author of “*Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News*,” set out to find the answer in his most recent book titled “*A Slobbering Love Affair: The True (And Pathetic) Story of the Torrid Romance Between Barack Obama and the Mainstream Media.*”

EXPLANATION: Use italics (underlining) for titles and subtitles of books, plays, long poems, works of art, films, radio and television series, long musical works and recordings, videos, video and computer games, and comic strips. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 362.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Bernard Goldberg, author of “*Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News*,” set out to find the answer in his most recent book titled “*A Slobbering Love Affair: The True (And Pathetic) Story of the Torrid Romance Between Barack Obama and the Mainstream Media.*”

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: I saw *Romeo and Juliet* last night.

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6.4 Quotation marks

MY SENTENCE: Bernard Goldberg, author of *“Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News”*, set out to find the answer in his most recent book titled *“A Slobbering Love Affair: The True (And Pathetic) Story of the Torrid Romance Between Barack Obama and the Mainstream Media.”*

EXPLANATION: Always place quotation marks before and after someone’s exact words. I go my information from page 365 of the Holt Handbook.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Bernard Goldberg, author of *“Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News,”* set out to find the answer in his most recent book titled *“A Slobbering Love Affair: The True (And Pathetic) Story of the Torrid Romance Between Barack Obama and the Mainstream Media.”*

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: “He said to go that way.”

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MY SENTENCE: Bernard Goldberg has been a force in news coverage and commentary for decades, working at CBS News starting in 1972 after being a member of the associated press.

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6.3 Italics/underlining

MY SENTENCE: In 2001 he wrote his first book, “*Bias*”, in which he attacked his (soon to be) former employer and leveled accusations of liberal slant at a number of people within the CBS organization.

EXPLANATION: Use italics (underlining) for titles and subtitles of books, plays, long poems, works of art, films, radio and television series, long musical works and recordings, videos, video and computer games, and comic strips. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 362.

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MY SENTENCE: The book became a number one New York Times bestseller, and since then he has written several other books and often appears on television and radio shows to discuss issues of the day.

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6.4 Italics/underlining

MY SENTENCE: In 2007 he published “*Crazies to the Left of Me, Wimps to the Right: How One Side Lost Its Mind and the Other Lost Its Nerve*”, which harshly criticized both of America’s political parties and also became a New York Times number one bestseller.

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16.1 Choose the best word

MY SENTENCE: *A Slobbering Love Affair* returns again to the subject of media bias, clearly cementing Goldberg's authority and intelligence in the areas of media and analysis.

EXPLANATION: Mr. Lane said so.

REVISED EXAMPLE: *A Slobbering Love Affair* returns again to the subject of media bias, clearly cementing Goldberg's authority _ in the areas of media and analysis.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The man's resentment at being passed over for promotion was evident.

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16.1 Choose the best word

MY SENTENCE: Goldberg believes that the mainstream media not only totally slanted its coverage in favor of Barack Obama, but lost its credibility in the process.

EXPLANATION: Mr. Lane said so.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Goldberg believes that the mainstream media not only _ slanted its coverage in favor of Barack Obama, but lost its credibility in the process.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The man's resentment at being passed over for promotion was evident.

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10.1 Ambiguous Reference

MY SENTENCE: The book cites the day Sarah Palin was chosen as McCain's running mate as a prime example of this.

EXPLANATION: An ambiguous reference is a pronoun that could have two or more possible antecedent. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 163.

REVISED EXAMPLE: The book cites the day Sarah Palin was chosen as McCain's running mate as a prime example of MSNBC's blatant liberal bias.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Fred and Sarah both need to do their homework.

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5.4 Introductory Elements

MY SENTENCE: In an answer dangerously close to socialism, Obama replied “I think when you spread the wealth around, it’s good for everybody.”

EXPLANATION: Use a comma after certain introductory elements. I got my information from the Holt Handbook on page 342.

REVISED EXAMPLE: In an answer dangerously close to socialism, Obama replied, “I think when you spread the wealth around, it’s good for everybody.”

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: He said, “I think this is a good idea.”

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6.4 Quotation marks

MY SENTENCE: “A Rasmussen poll (Rasmussen Reports, 7/19/08) found that 49 percent of respondents believe that reporters will try to help Obama win, while 14 percent believe most will try to help McCain. Strikingly, “45 percent say that most reporters would hide information if it hurt the candidate they wanted to win,” while only 30 percent disagree. Such polls reveal the power of the right-wing media in America.” (The Myth of Pro-Obama Media Bias)

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13.1 In-text citation

MY SENTENCE: That's a pro-profit bias, not a liberal bias." (The Myth of Pro-Obama Media Bias)

EXPLANATION: Use in-text citation to specify where you cite a specific author or source in an essay.
I got my information from the FHS Research Guide on page 18.

REVISED EXAMPLE: That's a pro-profit bias, not a liberal bias." (The Myth of Pro-Obama Media Bias).
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ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Bears almost never chase people up trees (Bill's Wilderness Guide).
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MY SENTENCE: Since Obama was perceived as winning, he got more positive coverage in this respect. (The Myth of Pro-Obama Media Bias) (Project for Excellence in Journalism)

EXPLANATION: Use in-text citation to specify where you cite a specific author or source in an essay. I got my information from the FHS Research Guide on page 18.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Since Obama was perceived as winning, he got more positive coverage in this respect. (The Myth of Pro-Obama Media Bias)_(Project for Excellence in Journalism)_

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: Bears almost never chase people up trees (Bill's Wilderness Guide)_